

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS,

AND

Bulletin of American Numismatic and Archæological Societies.

VOL. IX.

BOSTON, APRIL, 1875.

No. 4.



THE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION MEDALS.

THIS cut represents the larger of the two Medals struck and issued for the Centennial Commission, each being prepared in two metals. We add descriptions of both Medals.

First Medal. Obv. THESE UNITED COLONIES ARE, AND OF RIGHT OUGHT TO BE, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES.; in exergue, 1776; a female figure resting on the right knee, holding with right hand a sword to the ground, and raising the left to heaven; above her is a constellation of thirteen stars, from which issue rays.

Rev. IN COMMEMORATION OF THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. ACT OF CONGRESS JUNE 1874.; a standing female figure, girt with a sword, near whom is the shield of the United States, with each hand places a laurel-wreath on the head of a kneeling female, one personifying Mechanic Arts, and the other Ornamental Arts; the former at the left holds a hammer in right hand, which rests on a heavy cog-wheel, and near her is an anvil; the other at the right places her right hand on a bust, and holds with her left a modelling-stick, and near her are a palette and brushes; below the figures, 1876. Size 36.

Second Medal. Obv. As the first, but smaller.

Rev. Within a wreath of laurel, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE in eight irregular lines; around the wreath, BY AUTHORITY OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES 1876. Size 24.

We are sorry not to be able to add strong words of praise for the design, execution and workmanship of these Medals. But on each of these points the less said the better. The conception is commonplace, the dies are poorly engraved, and the medals badly struck. Compared with the Medal described in our last number as commemorating 4 July, 1776, these new ones are simply disgraceful.

W. S. A.

THE USES OF MEDIEVAL AND MODERN COINS.

THE readers of the *Journal* will be interested in the following translation from the preface to "Appel's Repertorium zur Münzkunde des Mittelalters und der Neuern Zeit," which has been kindly sent us by a correspondent, R. S.

EDS.

WHILE the present work is just appearing in print, I venture to present to the learned lovers of coins some of my opinions on the uses of the coins of the middle ages and modern times.

It is objected to these coins that the designs are imperfect, the execution barbarous, the finish, in the middle ages, miserable, and in more modern times, extremely mean,—in a word, that they all lack æsthetical worth, and that therefore they are not suited to promote the taste for genuine art and beauty which becomes so much improved by the study of the Greek and Roman coins.

Yet, evident as is the high excellence which is justly admired on the latter, every connoisseur must confess that the hitherto unattained point to which the numismatic art of both these great nations reached, does not by any means extend over the whole period of their political existence. The pieces which were struck during the budding prosperity of the Grecian cities are far inferior in artistical value to those which appeared when the concurrence of fortunate circumstances had elevated these cities to their most flourishing state. These coins, also, bear the vestiges of the decline of that glory,—from the period when foreign conquerors enslaved this celebrated union of states. The same is acknowledged of the Roman. What a difference there is, for example, between a coin of Ælius Cæsar and of the Emperor Olybrius,—between the two Faustinas and Ælia Pulcheria. Nevertheless, these coins are eagerly sought after by numismatists, and the high or low price for them is determined merely according to the degree of their rarity; and many of the most important numismatic authors,—among them our immortal *Eckhel*, have not considered it beneath their dignity to devote their greatest attention and diligence to the description of all these Roman imperial coins and medals, from Julius Cæsar to Constantine the Fourteenth. * * *

Who can assert that numismatic art, since its revival in the middle ages, has made no perceptible progress? Let one examine the series of coins and medals, which were manufactured after the revival of the arts in Rome,

Florence, Mantua, &c., and he will find many pieces among them, whose device and finish are admirable. This is certainly the case afterwards, with the coins of the countries on this side of the Alps. They began to improve by degrees after the second half of the sixteenth century, until suddenly the absurd fashion of the peruke, which in the seventeenth century spread like a pestilence from France, over the whole of, at that time, civilized Europe, ruined again the natural and beautiful outlines of the head, even on coins. But even in these times of repeated deficiencies in good taste, the medal coiners of the Popes, as they never embraced this ridiculous fashion, continued to form their obverses with much regularity and naturalness. Our own *Hedlinger*, also, has proved what a high genius in any branch of knowledge and art can execute, who has the power to rise above his age. As they at last began, after some decades, to model the hair of the head after the manner of the Greeks and Romans in their most beautiful epochs, there re-appeared on coins, but chiefly on medals, here and there, heads, which at least in a slight degree remind one of the better antiques; among them many of those are certainly to be numbered, which appeared under the government of the man *qui res humanas misceat*.

But far more important is the advantage to be derived from the chronological arrangement of a collection of coins, as this so much assists the comprehensive survey and easy acquisition of the history of the middle ages and modern times.

The studious youth grows up as it were with the history of antiquity. The men who in those times performed great and noble or frightful and detestable deeds, who were the pride or the disgrace of their native land, are, together with the period in which they lived, so intimately connected with the classics, that it is impossible to acquire the latter, without at the same time recollecting the former. Even as the Roman dominion approached its decline, — times which produced no more orators, historians or poets who could be held up as models to youth, then the two divisions into which the vast empire broke, still remained so comprehensive, that in spite of the number of autocrats fast following each other, it is yet possible to overcome the difficulty of retaining them in the memory.

How very different it is with modern history. The fairest and most important portion of Europe is divided into many parts, each of which preserves its own ruler, constitution and laws. How difficult it is to collect this variety and commit it to the memory. How much escapes even those well versed in history. Even if one who is investigating, searches for the monarchs of those great and powerful states which grew up from the ruins of the Western Empire, he will remember only those few among the heroes and conquerors, who great in soul and courage, seized with giant arm the reins of government, and with constantly renewed strength hastened to their appointed aim,—or, those whom a dreadful misfortune befell, like the valiant king at *Favia*,—or who perpetrated a revolting deed of tyranny, like Philip the Fair, &c.; only such rise from the gloomy vale of oblivion above those who lived before and after them, and make a lasting impression on the memory. Nevertheless it is well known by every one who is familiar with the events of the time, how necessary it often is to diplomatists and reigning princes, in accidentally occurring circumstances, to know exactly and distinctly the history

of the most insignificant country and the genealogy of ever so unimportant a ruler. Nothing is more suitable to impress all these things on the memory, without much effort, than a well arranged collection of coins. It gives the thread which successfully leads out of the labyrinth. Tokens which appeal to the senses are requisite to the human mind, by which things of the past are united to the present time. They chain the attention, elevate the imagination, strengthen the memory, and I repeat what I have already affirmed, that whoever has arranged such a collection, not for mere whim or empty pastime, but carefully, with books in his hand, cannot fail to be able to remember at any time, in the easiest and quickest manner, all that has occurred which is remarkable in the complicated events of nations. Besides this definite and undeniable use is the agreeable entertainment which modern numismatics likewise afford, and this leads me back to the *obverses*.

Since the time of Pope Sextus IV, when the impressions of the face reappeared on the papal coins, all the Roman medal coiners, even to our own time, were careful to give to the representations of the Popes, the dies of which they had to make, all the resemblance and finish of which their art was capable; and whoever has examined with a critical spirit the lives and actions of these hierarchs, since the tiara adorned their brows, will also find in the lineaments appearing on the medals, the characteristics which give a peculiar character to each of their reigns, in spite of the uninterrupted unity of tendency. I pass over many of the busts of regents, female regents, and other historical personages which one meets with, here and there, on coins, since the second half of the sixteenth century, and will only refer to some of the medals of Charles V. and Maximilian II. If neither of these glorious German Emperors were so fortunate as to have such artists around them as fell to the lot of several of the old Cæsars of Rome, they at least were such as well understood how to give to Charles V. all the loftiness, manly gravity and greatness of soul which never left this great man in his distinguished career. One never misses, also, in Maximilian II., that mild wisdom and gentle toleration which makes this noble scion of the House of Hapsburgh so dear to our hearts. If such an estimation of the coinage be declared fanciful, and that numismatists see more than the artist himself intended, then the reverses must be examined — first, the figurative representations, and secondly, the heraldic bearings.

When the dawn of reviving art spread its beneficent light over the happy fields of Italy, and spirits of a higher nature, kindled by the immortal ruins of antiquity, became creators of new master-pieces, the figures and outlines on the medals gradually lost their stiff, gothic and grotesque forms. New and appropriate representations of churches, palaces, triumphal arches and the like appeared in their places: so on the papal coins appeared ancient and modern monuments — the Pantheon, Trajan's pillar, the castle of St. Angelo, St. Peter's church, the bridge of Alische, &c., &c. Much that benevolent men have done for their suffering brethren in time of need is perpetuated in mystic representations on medals, and the latter were also used for the commemoration of victories gained, treaties pledged, marriages, &c. Of all these, several medals still exist which perfectly bear comparison with those of *Hieronimus Lucenti*, *Frederick of Parma* and the *Hameranis*.

To these reverses may suitably be added, not in respect to taste, but

invention, that whole class of remarkable pieces which are known under the name of *satirical coins*. The spirit and wit of the artist are expressed in a wonderful manner on these coins, and they aptly describe the points of character of those persons whom the satire is intended to hit, and also conform to the opinions which prevailed at the period. It may even be asserted that these satirical coins sometimes unfold circumstances which have only been feebly touched upon by the historian.

The coats of arms constitute the second and principal class of impressions which are found on reverses, but more on current coins than on medals. It is certainly remarkable that in those times, when scholastical and philosophical questions began to intrude in all the sciences, that the Egyptian hieroglyphics, also, (in an entirely different direction of course) were revived in a certain manner in the devices of coats of arms. Although in coats of arms the natural and beautiful is entirely sacrificed, as in the East, to the inward signification, which is the reason their composition is so far fetched and tasteless, nevertheless they are an inexhaustible source of investigation on that account to the observer, as they continually refer to titles, inheritances, descents, marriage articles, the possession of lands, &c. and here it is that numismatics lend a friendly hand to heraldry.

Of no less importance are the legends, so called, which are found on coins and medals, and of the immense number I will mention only a few, and those the best known. I begin with one of the oldest from the middle ages—that which the Emperor Louis the Pious ordered to be put on his groschen, namely, *Christiana Religio*, which is the legend on a reverse, in the middle of which is a gothic church. When we consider that this industrious, sober and learned Emperor, sacrificed without hesitation his political interests, as soon as they were not in harmony with his unbounded piety,—that the propagation of those religious principles with which his soul was inwardly penetrated was the moving spring of all his actions, and that to this endeavor, which amounted to the highest enthusiasm, none of those means stood at command which the following century so abundantly furnished; then we shall not misunderstand his purpose in allowing these words to be stamped on the coins, current, and thus in many hands, the high meaning of which would daily and hourly be laid before the ignorant by those who could read and explain them, and find ever new occasions to instruct them in what it was the wish of the Emperor they should learn.

What important retrospective views does not the coin of Louis XII. with the legend *Perdam Babylonis nomen* afford, which he ordered to be struck when his army was marching against Julius II. How distinctly were the sentiments of those men expressed, who, at the commencement of the Lutheran Reformation, struck the medals with the likeness of Huss, the stake and the legend "CENTUM REVOLUTIS ANNIS," &c. What an impression on men's minds, a century later, must the dollar of Christian of Brunswick have made, with its well known inscription on the reverse. In short, there are few important events in the history of European nations since the end of the fifteenth century until our own time, which have not been alluded to on coins or medals.

These advantages of the knowledge of modern coins as well as ancient, of which I have pointed out only some of the best known, attracted the

attention of several learned men from the sixteenth century, to this department of records. At first, only the busts attracted their notice, as in ancient coins, which were engraved from Julius Cæsar to the German Emperors; then the weight, intrinsic worth, mutual relationship of one kind of coin to another were taken into consideration, until at length *Luckius* by his work opened the fine view by which the use of coins in history becomes manifest. What a happy use was made of his effort, in subsequent times, is proved by the writings of *Jac. de Bie*, *David Kohler*, *Bizot*, *Van Loon*, &c. In the meanwhile, the library of modern numismatics increases, and there are few countries or even provinces in cultivated Europe in which treatises upon their coins have not appeared. Yet there is still wanting a systematic work on modern numismatics which should compare in some faint degree with that of the eminent *Ekhel* on ancient coins, as the works of *Lilienthal*, *Madai*, *Weisen*, *Johann Friedrich Joachim* and *Tobias Kohler* are very partial and imperfect. To modern times, in which critical research, especially among us Germans, prevails, we also owe many considerable contributions to this knowledge and catalogues with historical notes attached. Mr. Appel, also, for thirty years a zealous collector, contributes in this book to the latter, and although he has for the most part preserved the style which he found in previous German numismatic works, yet the reader will be rewarded by the extraordinary richness of the material, and the most exact description of each single piece in this large collection. Besides, a number of pieces, never before described, have been presented here, and it may be asserted without any exaggeration, that as yet no country, in any language, has shown a numismatic work of this extent, variety and copiousness. Thus, this book may be considered a most important and complete contribution to the knowledge of the coins of the middle ages and modern times.

Vienna, May, 1819.

JOS. SALES FRANK.

MEDAL COMMEMORATIVE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, OR, DIPLOMATIC MEDAL.

[See Vol. ix. page 65.]

Editors of the Journal of Numismatics:

IN the autumn of 1867, I purchased in Paris, from a dealer in coins, on the Quai, opposite the Mint, a lot of American Medals in silver, bronze and lead. Among them I found a lead proof in two parts, waxed on a piece of board and in a frame, as the engravers of Medals arrange the proofs of dies. This lead proof attracted my attention, for I have never seen such a Medal before, nor any description of it among the books then in my possession. I showed my lead proof to the late M. Pelouze, Director of the Mint in Paris, and asked him to see if any record or specimen of that Medal existed in the Archives and the collection of the "Hotel des Monnaies." After a careful examination, he told me that nothing whatever existed there; but he added, "As a part of our books were burned and destroyed during the Terror of 1793, it is very possible that such a Medal was struck here, as all the Medals of M. Auguste Dupre were struck at the 'Balanciers de la Monnaie.'"

Returning to my dealer, the late Mr. Bal, I asked him where he got the American Medals. He told me, from a man whom he had seen several times

in company with M. Dupre, a gentleman who has a large numismatic collection, and who used to purchase often from him; though he had not seen him for some years. "But," he added, "if you go to M. X., an engraver of Medals, Rue d'Anjou Dauphine, you will learn there the address of M. Dupre." Calling on the engraver, Rue d'Anjou, and stating my desire, the engraver by a mistake took me for an American gentleman, who had ordered a large and beautiful Medal in honor of General Thomas; a Medal ordered by the Legislature of Tennessee for the War of the Rebellion; and he showed me a bronze proof of the Thomas Medal, just struck. Telling him his mistake, and showing my lead proof of the "14 July, 1776;" he said that my lead impressions came from the cabinet of M. Dupre, where he had seen it often. That M. Dupre had very likely the Medal in bronze and silver, as he possessed all the Medals engraved by his father; but that he believed M. Dupre had been ill for some time; he had not seen him for two or three years; giving me his address, and also giving me the address of M. Jacques Edouard Gatteaux, son of the engraver of that name, who, like Dupre, engraved a part of the American Medals during the reign of Louis XVI., Rue de Seine. At the house of M. Dupre, I learned that the gentleman was a great invalid, and on the point of leaving for the south of France. I was able only to exchange a few words with him.

I then called at the hotel of M. Gatteaux, Rue de Lille; there I found in several large drawers a great number of American Medals, all "*fleurs de coins*," and some of them among the rarest, such as the De Fleury Medal, the John Stewart, &c. Their number was so great, that it was difficult to pick them out, as they were quite crowded one above the other. Such a rare collection of American Medals was invaluable for American history. I soon picked out two copies of the so called "Diplomatic Medal," or "14 July, 1776, Medal," and very likely more would have turned up, if I had looked more carefully over the collection. I begged M. Gatteaux to let me have a copy, and to fix his own price. He refused most emphatically to part with anything. He said that he intended to give his whole collection of pictures, engravings, drawings, sculptures, and Medals to the Great Museum of the Louvre, on the condition that a whole hall there should be devoted to him. I must say, that his hotel was crammed from the porter's lodge to the attics with beautiful, and some very valuable pieces of art, several pictures by Ingres, &c. To my great regret, on reaching Paris a few days after the overthrow of the Commune, I took a drive among the still smoking ruins of the Quai d'Orsay and the Rue de Lille, and there I saw that the hotel of M. Gatteaux was no more, but a mass of burned debris. Inquiring, I learned that nothing or almost nothing was saved, and that his beautiful collection of American Medals was a thing of the past. What a pity!

As to the collection of M. Dupre, I do not know what became of it; or, if M. Dupre is still alive, which is very doubtful, for I wrote to him in the south of France, but never received an answer, and I believe that he is dead. Auguste Dupre was the best engraver of Medals during the reigns of Louis XV. and Louis XVI., a descendant or at least a relation of another engraver of the same name, who during the reign of Louis XIV. was also the best engraver of Medals. So that the name of Dupre remains in the memory of French engravers, as that of the most skillful and ablest who has ever existed in Paris.

Here is the list of Medals engraved by A. Dupre, relative to the American War of Independence: the Paul Jones Medal; that awarded to Morgan for the Battle of Cowpens; that to Gen. Green for the Battle of Eutaw; *Libertas Americana*; Benjamin Franklin, three Medals; and last, the Medal commemorative of American Independence, or Diplomatic Medal.

After a seven years' absence in Europe, I returned to Cambridge in 1871, and showed my lead proof at the meeting of December 8, 1872, of the Boston Numismatic Society.*

Having learned that Congress had made an appropriation to strike Medals for the Centennial Commission, I wrote the following letter to Dr. H. R. Linderman, Director of the Mint, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS, June 10, 1874.

SIR:—Will you allow me to call your attention to the Medal struck in Paris for the commemoration of the first—IV of July, 1776,—which ought to be recoined for the Centennial Anniversary. As the Medal is very rare, allow me to say what I know about it. Mod. 68 mill. bronze. America seated and Mercury; the sea behind and a sailing ship. Leg. *To Peace and Commerce*. Ex. IV JUL. MDCCLXXVI. (Dupre f.) Rev. The design which has been adopted since, as the great seal of the United States, (Eagle and *E Pluribus Unum*.) Leg. *The United States of America*. The Medal is a great deal larger than the celebrated *Libertas Americana* Mod. 45 mill.; and beautifully executed by the best engraver of that time, Dupre, de la Monnaie de Paris. Where is the die? It is not in France; I looked for it there some years ago, and had a conversation with Dupre's son, (since dead in the south of France.) M. Gatteaux, also son of the engraver of the same name during Louis Sixteenth's time, had two copies of the Medal in bronze, both *fleurs de coins*; he declined to part with them at any price. Since then, they have been destroyed with all his collections of pictures, sculptures, and drawings, by the Communists, in May, 1871; his hotel, Rue de Lille, having been burned entirely by those modern barbarians. I have an original lead proof of the Medal, obtained from Dupre's son. If you think right to have it re-engraved and struck for the Centennial, I will put it at your disposal for that purpose.

Very respectfully yours,

JULES MARCOU.

He sent me an answer as follows:

WASHINGTON, TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Office of the Director of the Mint, June 12, 1874.

DEAR SIR:—I have to thank you for your favor of the 10th instant, which contains very interesting information. I was not aware that such a Medal had ever been struck. When I was Director of the Mint in 1867, I obtained from the French Mint bronze copies of all the Medals struck in that country in commemoration of events in America during the Revolutionary War, and as the Medal to which you call my attention was not among those sent, I fear that the die is no longer in existence. If you will be so kind as to send me the original lead proof of the Medal, I will consider the question of its reproduction for the Centennial Anniversary. If the impression you have is a perfect one, we will have no difficulty in reproducing it in fine shape.

Very respectfully,

H. R. LINDERMAN, *Director*.

The discovery of Dr. R. Morris of Kentucky, recorded in the last number of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, gives the whole history of how the Medal originated, and now the whole matter is in the hands of the Director of the Mint, and I sent to him, some time since, my lead proof.

Cambridge, February 1, 1875.

JULES MARCOU.

* See American Journal of Numismatics, Vol. vii., No. 3, p. 62.

COLLECTIONS.

THE love of making collections is often early developed. A school-boy has a rare assortment of marbles or butterflies, before his purse allows him to indulge in stamps or photographs. A now celebrated surgeon is said to have made his first money by a collection of neatly mounted skeletons of mice. The proceeds were applied to the purchase of a series of microscopic slides. Many a fine collection of coins has had its beginning when a child has perceived the difference between a sou and a halfpenny, and has put the foreign money by, as a curiosity. To a real collector, the catalogue of a coming sale in his own particular department is more interesting than a new novel or a change of ministry. A day at Christie's is more to him than the Derby or the Ascot week. Even the misfortunes of his friends are not without aspects of consolation if their collections come into the market. And many who are not collectors read the list of prices in the *Times*, and take much pleasure in the perusal. Some regret may be expressed, perhaps even felt, when the accumulations of centuries in an old family are dispersed. It seems a pity, though it may be useful. But our sorrow is alleviated if we make collections ourselves. The rare Sevres mark for which we have so long pined is now within our reach. The scarce Aldine or the unique Wynkyn, for which we have sighed in vain, may now perhaps be ours. The Reynolds portraits which have long been admired on the wall of another may now perhaps be transferred to our own, and become as much our property as our great-grandmother herself. Thus we contrive to bear up when others come to grief, and can even see that a benefit is conferred upon mankind by the spendthrift who ruins his own family. He would be adjudged a lunatic or an idiot but for his skill in handicapping, and there are compensating advantages to those who deplore his headlong course and reprehend his extravagance. They at least are wise if he is foolish, and, sternly repressing their feelings, they attend his sale, and lay up treasures which their descendants will probably disperse in turn.—*Saturday Review*.

MEDIEVAL BALTIC COINS AND MEDALS.

THE Riga Gazette gives an account of a collection of medieval coins and medals, chiefly from the Baltic provinces of Russia, which are to be sold by auction at Vienna. So complete a collection of Baltic coins, it says, has never been offered for sale before. Among them are a number of Plettenberg's ten-ducats pieces of 1525, some of his very rare double ducats, struck at Riga in 1528, and the marks struck at Revel in the same year; two thalers struck at Riga in 1557, by Galen and Furstenberg, Furstenberg's and Kettler's "siege money," of the years 1558 and 1559, and the single and double gold gulden by Kettler. There are altogether two hundred and thirty-three coins of the religious orders, struck at Riga, Wenden, and Revel. The most remarkable of the coins of the episcopate of Dorpat, of which there are upwards of a hundred in the collection, is a schilling of John IV., struck at Buxhovden between 1499 and 1505. The Gazette believes that there is only one other example of this coin, which is in the collection of the Esthonian

Society at Dorpat. Several of the Dorpat coins are described in the catalogue as belonging to the period of Bishop Bernhard II. (1285 to 1299.) It is doubtful, however, whether any coins were struck in the episcopate at so early a date. Those above referred to are more probably of Bernhard III. (1412 to 1413.) There are three different impressions of the large medal cast in 1545 by Bishop Jost von der Recke, but it is not clear whether these are original castings, as several are current of a later date. The collection of coins struck by King Magnus on the island of Oesel includes two rare medals of the years 1563 and 1565. The Riga coins are very numerous, especially those struck under the Polish rule. They comprise five "freiheitsthaler" of the years 1573 and 1574, all with different impressions. The most rare of the Polish coins are the large gold coin of 1586, equal in weight to thirteen ducats, the groschen of 1616, and a medal commemorating the conquest of Livonia by King Stephen. The coins struck under the Swedish Government at Revel, Riga and Narva are also represented by numerous specimens.

THE collection here referred to was sold at auction in Vienna last November, under care of the Brothers Egger. The catalogue makes a volume of four hundred pages, containing five thousand three hundred and seventy-nine lots. Seventy pages are devoted to the coins and medals of the Baltic Provinces, described above, and forming the most remarkable series of the whole cabinet. Nearly every other country is also more or less represented in the collection.—EDS.

PROPOSED ISSUE OF A TWENTY-CENT COIN.

A BILL authorizing the coinage of a twenty-cent silver piece passed the Senate at the last session of Congress, but was not considered in the House of Representatives for want of time. The issue of a coin of that denomination will not only be in accordance with our decimal system of money, but will remove a difficulty in making change which now exists upon the Pacific coast and in Texas, where the five-cent copper-nickel coins do not circulate, and where it was formerly the practice to apply the term "bits," "two bits," and "four bits," respectively, to the fractions of the Spanish dollar which circulated there. The custom appears to continue, notwithstanding those coins have disappeared from circulation. Accordingly, if a payment of one bit is to be made, and a twenty-five cent coin be used for the purpose, a ten-cent coin (one bit) is returned as the proper change, five cents being lost in the transaction by the purchaser. The issue of a twenty-cent coin will no doubt remove this difficulty. It may be added that, although this "bit" system appears to be quite an unimportant matter, few visitors to the Pacific coast fail to suffer some vexation at least from its existence.

Inquiry is occasionally made as to why the coinage of the silver five-cent piece was discontinued. The reason appears to have been that it would, on the resumption of specie payments, be likely to expel from circulation and drive into the Treasury for redemption the five-cent copper-nickel coins. At first glance this may appear improbable, but when it is considered that the original law authorizing the issue of the copper-nickel five-cent coin provided for its redemption in lawful money of the United States, it will be seen that there must come a time when it will be superior to the five-cent silver coin, and for the reason that it will be exchangeable for notes redeemable in gold

coin. The silver coin, which would have a greater nominal than intrinsic value, and not redeemable in lawful money, or gold coin, would become the inferior currency. The five-cent copper-nickel coin having been issued to the extent of over \$5,000,000, and the amount being sufficient for a token coin of that denomination, the provision of law discontinuing the issue of the five-cent silver coin appears to have been proper.—*Report of the Director of the Mint, 1874.*

LINCOLN MEDALS.

Editors of the Journal of Numismatics :

IN the January number of the *Journal* appears a communication from H. W. H., in which my "Catalogue of Lincoln Medals" is the subject of considerable criticism. A list is also given of pieces which I did not describe. It might be supposed when Mr. H. W. H. criticises my work so closely, that he should give us a Supplementary List, remarkable alike for its fullness and accuracy. That this is not the case, I will now proceed to prove.

He mentions as new varieties in metals some half-dozen medals in bronze, which I had already catalogued as copper. All collectors know that these pieces are identical, and to be strictly accurate should be described as copper *bronzed*. Mr. H. W. H. proceeds to swell farther his list, by placing in the category of medals sundry pieces made from terra cotta, rubber, *green clay*, &c. These articles have no right to the title of medals, and I purposely excluded all such from my catalogue. I have a Lincoln piece made from *soap*, which has as much right in the list as the articles just mentioned! I pass over several small errors in Mr. H. W. H.'s catalogue, and would only call attention to its incompleteness. Robbed of its green clay medals, and not counting the pieces which, previously described by me, he has re-catalogued, his list numbers scarcely one hundred. I have descriptions (awaiting publication in a Supplement) of nearly two hundred varieties not mentioned in my catalogue. This work was issued two years ago, since which time many medals have appeared which were then either unknown or not in existence.

Hoping you will give this publication, in justice to myself and for the information of collectors, I remain, very respectfully yours,

12 East 30th Street, New York, Jan. 13, 1875.

ANDREW C. ZABRISKIE.

Editors of the Journal of Numismatics :

Allow me to express my regret that the list of Lincoln Medals sent you should have so much annoyed Mr. Zabriskie. So many persons are interested in the subject that a complete list was much to be desired; and I was not aware that Mr. Zabriskie was preparing a supplement. My list is quite at his disposal; indeed it was offered to him when he was preparing his catalogue, though the offer was not accepted. As to the incompleteness of the list, I quite agree with Mr. Zabriskie, and regret it quite as much as he. But he will see if he turns to it, that it only purports to include medals in Mr. Crosby's collection and my own, so that it seems hardly open to criticism on that account.

As to Mr. Zabriskie's notion that copper and copper-bronzed medals are "identical," I must venture to disagree with him. No doubt the metal of

which they are composed is similar, but their appearance is quite different; collectors who keep impressions in the different metals usually keep one of each; and they are described as different in nearly all catalogues, including Mr. Zabriskie's own. For similar reasons I am compelled to differ with him when he says that impressions from *medal dies* in terra cotta, rubber, &c., "have no right to the title of medals." I presume that he relies upon some dictionary definition, (they are far from unanimous — Cf. Webster, Worcester, Zell and Encyclopedia Britannia,) but such pieces are usually classed with medals, and rarely, if ever, described by any other term: and when Mr. Zabriskie's collection is sold, I feel little doubt that even his Lincoln "article" (as he calls it) in soap, will be classed with the other Lincoln Medals, rather than with the snuff-boxes and stuffed birds, that under the name of "miscellaneous articles" may close his catalogue. The question is merely one of words in each case, but I think that it is both more convenient and more accurate in addressing specialists of any kind to use words in the special meaning given them in that specialty; and to err, if at all, in over fullness of information.

I send you herewith a list of one hundred and three more Lincoln Medals, describing three entirely new ones, and twenty-one new mules, with numerous varieties in metal, mostly from two other collections, whose owners, Mr. F. H. James and Mr. C. P. Nichols, have kindly sent lists. The descriptions I have not been able to verify personally. This makes in all one hundred and seventy-one Lincoln Medals, not counting metals. The unmanageable length of the list in its present form, (probably exceeding five hundred when complete,) shows plainly enough the mistake to which I have already alluded in cataloguing varieties in metal as separate medals. As my two supplements contain two hundred and fourteen numbers while Mr. Zabriskie has collected for his Supplement less than two hundred, they can hardly fail to be of service to him.

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 13, 1875.

H. W. H.

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF LINCOLN MEDALS.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 298. Same as 10, but in copper. Size 36. | 317. Same as 101, but in bronze. Size 17. |
| 299. " 11, " bronze. " 32. | 318. " " " copper. " |
| 300. " 19, " type metal. " 26. (This medal is by True, not Key.) | 319. " " " brass. " |
| 301. Ob. same as 24. Rev. Douglas &c. Copper. Size 25. | 320. Ob. same. Rev. same as rev. of 229. Size 17. |
| 302. Ob. Head of Lincoln. Rev. Head of Washington. Trial piece on large planchet. White metal. Size 22. | 321. Ob. same. Rev. " F. C. Key & Sons 329 Arch St. Phila " White metal. Size 17. |
| 303. Same as 57, but in white metal. Size 20. | 322. Same as 103, but in brass. Size 17. |
| 304. " 70, " nickel. " 20. | 323. " 104 and 237, but in bronze. Size 17. |
| 305. " 80, " bronze. " 17. | 324. " " " brass. " |
| 306. " 90, " white metal. " 17. | 325. Ob. Head of Lincoln to right. Head as large as obv. of 144. Rev. same as rev. of 106. Copper. Size 17. |
| 307. " 93, " silver. " 17. | 326. Same as 107, but in silver. Size 17. |
| 308. Ob. same as 93. Rev. Hat "Public Square Nashville Tenn." Copper. Size 17. | 327. " " " bronze. " |
| 309. Ob. same. Rev. Ship "Dry Goods & Upholstery for Ships and Steamers." Copper. Size 17. | 328. " " " copper. " |
| 310. Ob. "Sign of the Old Man with Specs" &c. Rev. same as rev. of 93. Nickel. Size 17. | 329. " " " brass. " |
| 311. Same in copper. Size 17. | 330. " 108, " silver. " |
| 312. Ob. Eagle. "War of 1861 United States" Rev. same as rev. of 93. Copper. Size 17. | 331. " " " bronze. " |
| 313. Ob. same as rev. of 111. Rev. same as rev. of 93. Copper. Size 17. | 332. " 112, " bronze. " |
| 314. Same as 97 and 235, but in copper. Size 17. | 333. " 117, " silver. Size 16. |
| 315. Same as 98, " copper. " | 334. " 120, " copper. " |
| 316. " 101, " silver. " | 335. " " " brass. " |
| | 336. " " " white metal. " |
| | 337. " 121, " white metal. " |
| | 338. " 128, " copper. Size 15. |
| | 339. " " " brass. " |
| | 340. " 129, " silver. " |
| | 341. " " " copper. " |

342. Same as 129, but in brass. Size 15.
 343. *Ob.* same as 133. *Rev.* "Steamer Lancaster No. 4." Copper. Size 14.
 344. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* "Ellicott, Vinson & Co Memphis." Copper. Size 14.
 345. Same as 140, but in silver.
 346. " 141, " brass. Size 13.
 347. " 145, " white metal. "
 348. " 147, " " Size 12.
 349. " 161, " copper, "
 350. " 165, " nickel, "
 351. " " " copper. "
 352. " " " brass. "
 353. " " " white metal. "
 354. " 169, " copper. "
 355. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* Eagle. "1864 Liberty for All." Nickel. Size 12.
 356. Same, but in copper. Size 12.
 357. " " brass. "
 358. " " white metal. "
 359. Same as 170, but in copper. Size 12.
 360. " " " brass. "
 361. " " " white metal. "
 362. " 171, " brass. "
 363. " " " white metal. "
 364. " 173, " copper. "
 365. " " " white metal. "
 366. *Ob.* same as 176. *Rev.* Head of Grant to right. Copper. Size 11.
 367. Same, but in white metal. Size 11.
 368. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* Eagle, 13 stars, "1863." Copper. Size 11.
 369. Same, but in white metal. Size 11.
 370. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* Benjamin Franklin. White metal. Size 11.
 371. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* Mason & Co.'s Card. Brass. Size 11.
 372. Same, but in white metal. Size 11.
 373. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* Indian head. Copper. Size 11.
 374. Same, but in brass. Size 11.
 375. " " white metal. "
 376. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* Storer & Shroyer's card. Copper. Size 11.
 377. Same, but in brass. Size 11.
 378. " " white metal. "
 379. Same as 199, but in white metal. Size 22.
 380. " 210, " nickel. Size 19.
 381. " 212, " brass. "
 382. " 214, " brass. "
 383. " 219, but in white metal, rough. Only ten struck in this metal. Twenty-five struck in rubber. Size 20.
 384. Same as 232, but in nickel. Size 17.
 385. " 233, " white metal. "
 386. " 239, " brass. "
 387. " " " white metal. "
 388. *Ob.* same. *Rev.* same as *rev.* of Washington's head quarters. Size 17.
 389. *Ob.* same as *ob.* of 240, 241, and 242. *Rev.* "Protection to All at Home and abroad." Wreath. Eight stars with a star at each end of the wreath. Terra cotta. Size 17.
 390. Same as 247, but in nickel. Size 16.
 391. *Ob.* Head of Lincoln to right. "Abraham Lincoln Died Apr. 15. 1865." *Rev.* Blank scroll within a wreath. "Emancipation Proclamation Sept. 22. 1862." Copper. Size 15.
 392. Same as 256, but in nickel. Size 14.
 393. " " " copper. "
 394. " 257, " brass. "
 395. " 261, " copper. "
 396. " 271, " nickel. Size 12.
 397. " 275, " bronze. "
 398. " " " copper. "
 399. " 278, " white metal. Size 12.
 400. *Ob.* same as 3, 38, and 184 reduced by Wyon. *Rev.* blank. Silver. Size 4.

A PLEA FOR NUMISMATICS.

Editors of the Journal of Numismatics :

PERHAPS in no pursuit does the thorough numismatist derive more pleasure than in that of collecting coins and medals. The study is a science of a high order, and the more knowledge we gain the more eager we are to pursue it. Some may talk of the great expense necessary to gratify one's taste in this branch of science, and immediately condemn it for that reason ; but who has not his own particular hobby to ride, and to do this he will gladly deprive himself of some of the "necessaries of life," and "squander" his savings on that idol.

Coins are not necessarily immoderately expensive. The collecting of the various dates of the United States current coins, and the different varieties of some of the dates, from the half cent to the dollar, to be sure, is very expensive, and we would recommend to young collectors of limited means, to take the cents only, and pay considerable attention to the American Colonials ; many of these commemorate some of the principal historical events contemporary with our colonial ancestry, and will serve as everlasting mementos of their worthy deeds. The Washington tokens and medals should have attention ; a cabinet of these by themselves would be highly interesting. It would also be well to take up one or two series of the ancient Greek and Roman,

these being universally of particular historical interest. This branch of numismatics the great collectors of Europe seem to make a specialty.

There are people void of true artistic tastes who, in a derisive way, give the "very funny" names of "fever" and "mania" to coin collecting, and think them highly applicable. By "fever" they probably mean an insatiate desire to accumulate a quantity of coins, which in a short time dies out. The name "coin fever" may perhaps be applied to the hobbies of most of our juvenile collectors who are to be found in every city and village in the country, but we know of no reason why the name "mania" should be applied, — we have never heard of any one becoming insane on the subject. Numismatology is of early origin, and is doubtless steadily increasing in the public favor. Let it be encouraged.

G. A. D.

ISSUES OF THE MINT OF THE UNITED STATES.

IN anticipation of the conclusion of Mr. S. S. Crosby's work, which substantially ends with 1792, I have undertaken to prepare a list of the issues of the U. S. Mint from 1793. Of course I depend principally on my own series, which is quite full; but I have carefully studied the catalogue of the Seavey-Parmelee collection, and the volumes of Snowden and Dickeson. I add a few words in explanation of the plan. The word type will be but seldom used, as the types in each metal have been but rarely changed. The head or seated figure of Liberty on the obverse, and the eagle or wreath on reverse, constitutes a proper type, and each of these has continued for years. My object is to set down as exactly as possible the number of varieties caused by a different design of head or eagle, or by a change in inscription, in the number of stars or in the standard. Each is noticed, when it first occurs in a metal. I make no attempt to enumerate the dies, and therefore take no note of a different arrangement of stars or leaves or numerals, which is purely a variation of dies. Errors are mentioned in notes, as deserving no more prominent place. I particularly desire corrections, that some future author may write an absolutely exact work on this subject. There are many mistakes in Dickeson, and some in Snowden, but I do not claim to be always right, when I differ from their statements.

W. S. APPLETON.

1793.
Cent, three varieties.
1. Obv. LIBERTY; 1793; head to right, hair loosely streaming.
Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; within a ring of fifteen links ONE CENT. $\frac{1}{100}$ 17.
 2. Obv. LIBERTY; 1793; head to right, hair loosely streaming; below a sprig.
Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; within a wreath of olive ONE CENT; below $\frac{1}{100}$ 17.
 3. Obv. LIBERTY; 1793; head to right; beyond a pole and cap.
Rev. Similar to 2. 18.

Half-cent. Obv. LIBERTY; 1793; head to left; beyond a pole and cap

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; within a wreath of olive HALF CENT; below $\frac{1}{200}$ 14.

1794.

Dollar. Obv. LIBERTY; 1794; head to right, hair loosely streaming; at the sides are fifteen stars.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; an eagle with wings displayed, standing within a wreath of olive. 24.

Half-dollar. Similar, but smaller. 21.

Half-dime. Similar, but smaller. 10.

Cent. Similar to 3 of 1793. 18.

Half-cent. Similar, with the differences of value. 15.

1795.

Eagle. Obv. LIBERTY; 1795; head to right, wearing a cap; at the sides are fifteen stars.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; an eagle with wings displayed, standing on a palm-branch, holding in beak a laurel-wreath. 21.

Half-eagle, two varieties.

1. Similar to eagle, but smaller. 16.
2. Obv. Similar.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; an eagle displayed, on his breast the shield of U. S., in claws bundle of arrows and olive-branch, in beak a ribbon inscribed E PLURIBUS UNUM; around the head are sixteen stars, and above is a curved line of clouds extending from wing to wing. 16.

Dollar, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1794. 25.
2. Obv. LIBERTY; 1795; head to right, hair bound by a ribbon; at the sides are fifteen stars.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; an eagle with wings displayed, standing on clouds within a wreath of olive and palm. 25.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1794. 21.

Half-dime. Similar to 1794. 10.

Cent. Similar to 1794. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1794. 15.

1796.

Eagle. Similar to 1795, but with sixteen stars on obv. 21.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1 of 1795. ?Die altered from 1795.* 16.

Quarter-eagle, two varieties.†

1. Obv. LIBERTY; 1796; head to right, wearing a cap.
Rev. Similar to second half-eagle of 1795, but smaller. 13.
2. Obv. Similar to eagle of this year, but smaller.
Rev. Similar to 1. 13.

Dollar. Similar to 2 of 1795.* 25.

Half-dollar, two varieties.

1. Similar to second dollar of 1795, but smaller; at base of rev. $\frac{1}{2}$ 21.
2. Similar, but with sixteen stars on obv. 21.

Quarter-dollar. Similar to second dollar of 1795, but smaller. 18.

Dime. Similar, but smaller. 13.

Half-dime. Similar, but smaller. 10.

Cent, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1795. 18.
2. Obv. LIBERTY; 1796; head to right, hair bound by a ribbon.
Rev. Similar to 1. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1795. 15.

1797.

Eagle, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1796. 21.
2. Obv. Similar.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; an eagle displayed, on his breast the shield of U. S., in claws bundle of arrows and olive-branch, in beak a ribbon inscribed E PLURIBUS UNUM; around the head are thirteen stars, and above is a curved line of clouds extending from wing to wing. 21.

Half-eagle, three varieties.

1. Similar to 1796. 16.
2. Similar, but with sixteen stars on obv. 16.
3. Similar to second half-eagle of 1795. ?Die altered from 1795. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 2 of 1796, but with thirteen stars on obv. 13.

Dollar. Similar to 1796, but with sixteen stars on obv.† 25.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1 of 1796. 21.

Dime, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1796, but with sixteen stars on obv. 13.
 2. Similar, but with thirteen stars on obv. 13.
- Half-dime, three varieties.
1. Similar to 1796. 10.
 2. Similar, but with sixteen stars on obv. 10.
 3. Similar, but with thirteen stars on obv. 10.

Cent. Similar to 2 of 1796. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1796. 15.

1798.

Eagle. Obv. Similar to 1797, but with thirteen stars. Two dies altered from 1797.

Rev. Similar to 2 of 1797. 21.

Half-eagle, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1 of 1797, but with thirteen stars.
2. Obv. Similar to 1 of 1797, but with thirteen stars on obv. 16.
Rev. Similar to second eagle of 1797, but smaller. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 1797, but with thirteen stars on rev. 13.

Dollar, three varieties.

1. Similar to 2 of 1795. 25.
2. Similar, but with thirteen stars on obv. 25.

* Are there any with sixteen stars?

† Is there a third with the reverse of the larger coins?

‡ Are there any with fifteen stars?

3. Obv. Similar to last.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; an eagle displayed, on his breast the shield of U. S., in claws bundle of arrows and olive-branch, in beak a ribbon inscribed E PLURIBUS UNUM; around the head are thirteen stars, and above is a curved line of clouds extending from wing to wing.

25.

Dime, two varieties.

1. Similar to third dollar, but with sixteen stars on rev. Die altered from 1797. 13.

2. Similar to third dollar, but smaller. 13.

Cent. Similar to 1797. 18.

1799.

Eagle. Similar to 1798.* 21.

Half-eagle. Similar to 2 of 1798. 16.

Dollar. Similar to 3 of 1798.* 25.

Cent. Similar to 1798. 18.

1800.

Eagle. Similar to 1799. 21.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1799. 16.

Dollar. Similar to 1799. 25.

Dime. Similar to 2 of 1798. 13.

Half-dime. Similar, but smaller. 10.

Cent. Similar to 1799. 18.

Half-cent. Similar, with the differences of value. 15.

1801.

Eagle. Similar to 1800. 21.

Dollar. Similar to 1800. 25.

Half-dollar. Similar, but smaller. 21.

Dime. Similar to 1800. 13.

Half-dime. Similar to 1800. 10.

Cent. Similar to 1800.† 18.

1802.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1800. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 1798. 13.

Dollar. Similar to 1801. One die altered from 1801. 25.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1801. 21.

Dime. Similar to 1801. 13.

Half-dime. Similar to 1801. 10.

Cent. Similar to 1801.‡ 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1800. Die altered from 1800. 15.

1803.

Eagle. Similar to 1801. 21.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1802. Die altered from 1802. 16.

Dollar. Similar to 1802. 25.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1802. 21.

Dime. Similar to 1802. 13.

* One die has the error of fourteen stars on reverse.

† One die has the error of $\frac{1}{000}$, and another UNITED.

Half-dime. Similar to 1802. 10.

Cent. Similar to 1802. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1802. 15.

1804.

Eagle. Similar to 1803. 21.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1803. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 1802.§ 13.

Dollar. Similar to 1803. 25.

Quarter-dollar. Similar, but smaller; at base of rev. 25c. 18.

Dime. Similar to 1803. 13.

Cent. Similar to 1803. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1803. 15.

1805.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1804. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 1804. 13.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1803. Die altered from 1804. 21.

Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1804. 18.

Dime. Similar to 1804. 13.

Half-dime. Similar to 1803. 10.

Cent. Similar to 1804. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1804. 15.

1806.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1805. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 1805. 13.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1805. 21.

Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1805. 18.

Cent. Similar to 1805. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1805. 15.

1807.

Half-eagle, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1806. 16.

2. Obv. Head to left, shoulders draped, wearing a kind of turban, inscribed on the band LIBERTY; at the sides are thirteen stars, and below 1807.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; on a label in the upper part of the field E PLURIBUS UNUM; at base 5 D.; an eagle with wings displayed upwards, on his breast the shield of U. S., in claws olive-branch and three arrows. 16.

Quarter-eagle. Similar to 1806. 13.

Half-dollar, two varieties.

1. Similar to 1806. 21.

2. Obv. Head to left, wearing a kind of turban, inscribed on the band LIBERTY; at the sides are thirteen stars, and below 1807.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; on a label in the upper part of the field E PLURIBUS UNUM; at base 50 c.; an eagle with wings displayed downwards, on his breast the shield of U. S., in claws olive-branch and three arrows. 21.

‡ One die has the error of $\frac{1}{000}$.

§ Mine has the error of fourteen stars on reverse.

Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1806. 18.
 Dime. Similar to 1805. 13.
 Cent. Similar to 1806. One die altered from 1806. 18.
 Half-cent. Similar to 1806. 15.

1808.

Half-eagle. Similar to 2 of 1807. 16.
 Quarter-eagle. Similar, but smaller; at base of rev. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. 13.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 2 of 1807. 21.
 Cent. Obv. Head to left, hair bound by a ribbon round the forehead inscribed LIBERTY; at the sides are thirteen stars, and below 1808.

Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; within a wreath of olive ONE CENT. 18.

Half-cent. Similar to 1807. 15.

1809.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1808. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1808. 21.
 Dime. Similar, but smaller; at base of rev. 10 c. 12.
 Cent. Similar to 1808. 18.
 Half-cent. Similar, but smaller; on rev. HALF CENT. 15.

1810.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1809. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1809. 21.
 Cent. Similar to 1809. One die altered from 1809. 18.
 Half-cent. Similar to 1809. 15.

1811.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1810. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1810. 21.
 Dime. Similar to 1809. 12.
 Cent. Similar to 1810. One die altered from 1810. 18.
 Half-cent. Similar to 1810. 15.

1812.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1811. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1811. 21.
 Cent. Similar to 1811. 18.

1813.

Half-eagle. Obv. Head to left, no shoulders, wearing a kind of turban, inscribed on the band LIBERTY; around are thirteen stars, and below 1813.
 Rev. Similar to 1812. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1812. 21.
 Cent. Similar to 1812. 18.

1814.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1813. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1813. 21.

Dime. Similar to 1811. 12.
 Cent. Similar to 1813. 18.

1815.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1814. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1814. 21.
 Quarter-dollar. Similar, but smaller; at base of rev. 25 c. 17.

1816.

Cent. Obv. Head to left, hair tied behind by a cord, around the forehead a plain coronet inscribed LIBERTY; around are thirteen stars, and below 1816.
 Rev. Similar to 1814. 18.

1817.

Half-dollar. Similar to 1815. 21.
 Cent, two varieties.
 1. Similar to 1816. 18.
 2. Similar, but with fifteen stars round the head on obv. 18.

1818.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1815. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1817. 21.
 Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1815. 17.
 Cent. Similar to 1 of 1817. 18.

1819.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1818. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1818. 21.
 Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1818. 17.
 Cent. Similar to 1818. 18.

1820.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1819. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1819. 21.
 Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1819. 17.
 Dime. Similar to 1814. 12.
 Cent. Similar to 1819. ? One die altered from 1819. 18.

1821.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1820. 16.
 Quarter-eagle. Similar, but smaller; at base of rev. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. 12.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1820. 21.
 Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1820. 17.
 Dime. Similar to 1820. 12.
 Cent. Similar to 1820. 18.

1822.

Half-eagle. Similar to 1821. 16.
 Half-dollar. Similar to 1821. 21.
 Quarter-dollar. Similar to 1821. 17.
 Dime. Similar to 1821. 12.
 Cent. Similar to 1821. 18.

PRAGUE MEDAL.

THE King of Prussia caused a Medal to be struck on his taking this city [Prague]; having on one side the Plan of the Town, with this Inscription: PRAGUE taken by his Majesty the King of PRUSSIA, September 16. 1744; in the exergue, For the *third time in three Years*. On the reverse are all sorts of Military Trophies, with two Lines of Verse in the German Language, to the following effect,

By War, O LORD, *make Wars to cease,*
And let this Vict'ry lead to Peace.

From the Boston Weekly News-Letter, No. 2128, January 17, 1745.

THE TRADE DOLLAR.

THE Director of the Mint, in his late Report to the Secretary of the Treasury, says:— "The coinage of trade-dollars during the fiscal year amounted to \$3,588,900, the greater portion of which were exported to China, where they found a ready market, and continue to grow in favor for trade and exchange purposes. Owing to the limited capacity of the mints on the Pacific coast, we have not been able to meet the demand for these coins. The increased capacity of the new mint in San Francisco, to which operations will soon be transferred, and the addition of new machinery and appliances at the Carson mint, will enable us to meet the demand for all the coin, both gold and silver, which may be required on that coast for circulation and export.

"The total issue of silver dollars from the organization of the mint to the 1st of April, 1873, at which time, under the provisions of the coinage act, their coinage was discontinued, amounted to a little over \$8,000,000. Adding \$1,378,500, the amount of trade-dollars coined during the first quarter of the current fiscal year, to the coinage for the year ended June 30, 1874, gives the issue as more than half of the total coinage of the old silver dollar during a period of nearly eighty years."

Mr. O. H. La Grange, the superintendent of the San Francisco mint gives some interesting information in relation to the course of the trade-dollar: "At no time since the commencement of the present calendar year has the mint been enabled to accumulate a surplus of trade-dollars, and the public demand has not been fully met. The limited capacity of the mint and the unusually large coinage of gold, which is given precedence over silver, have materially abridged the supply of this international coin at San Francisco, but the favorable introduction of the trade-dollar into China has almost effectually destroyed the use of the Mexican silver dollar as a medium of exchange between this city and the ports in the Chinese Empire. The city banks report an excess of demand for trade-dollar exchange. The coinage capacity of the new mint, shortly to be occupied, will, it is to be hoped, fully meet the requirements for all gold and silver coins. Great care has been taken in the manufacture of the trade-dollar to reach the closest approximate perfection in assay-value, weight, and execution. The coins have successfully passed the critical tests made before their adoption at various Chinese ports, and their com-

mercial use is increasing. They have been officially adopted at Foo-Chow within a recent period, and the chief paymaster of the United States squadron on that coast will probably require this coin for his disbursements as soon as a supply can be relied on."

COLONIAL STAMP.



By the kindness of James R. Osgood & Co., we are enabled to give the accompanying fac-simile of the Colonial Stamp authorized by the Legislature of Massachusetts under the administration of Governor William Shirley in 1755. It is from the original die shown at the meeting of the Boston Numismatic Society in November last, and was first given in Mr. Samuel A. Drake's "Old Landmarks and Historical Personages of Boston," a most interesting volume published by the above firm.

Mr. Drake's work contains fac-similes of the penny, two-penny and four-penny stamps authorized by the same act.

U. S. HALF DOLLARS OF 1838.

1. Head of Liberty facing the left, as in 1836 and 1837. Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; HALF DOL.; an eagle with wings displayed, shield on breast, holding an olive-branch and three arrows. This is the regular coinage, as adopted this year.

2. Same obverse. Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; HALF DOLLAR; an eagle with wings displayed, no shield, holding an olive-branch and four arrows. This is in the Mint, and is called unique.

3. Head of Liberty facing the left; she wears no cap, but a diadem, and a ribbon with LIBERTY. Rev. As 1. This is in the Mint.

4. Same obv. Rev. As 2.

5. Same obv. Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; HALF DOLLAR; an eagle flying to the left.

6. Liberty seated. Rev. As 1. This is in the Mint.

7. Same obverse. Rev. As 2.

8. Same obverse. Rev. As 5.

9. Same obverse. Rev. As in 1836 and 1837.

10. Same obverse. Rev. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; HALF DOLLAR; defiant eagle standing sideways, holding an olive-branch and six arrows. This is described by Mr. Robert C. Davis as in the collection of Col. Cohen of Baltimore.

Do all these pieces really exist? Are there others? Any corrections will be most thankfully received, as an exact list of the halves of this year does not yet seem to be in print anywhere. I have only 1, 4, 5, 7, 8. Does a second impression exist of any of the others? No. 9 was in the Mickley sale; where is it now?

W. S. A.

SUMATRAN COIN.

PROF. HALDERMAN exhibited a coin of Sumatra, found in a bag of Coffee in Philadelphia. On one side was the legend, "Island of Sumatra, 1804," on the other, in Malay, "sa teng wang," one-half piece, and used it to illustrate the difficulties encountered by decipherers, and the methods of overcoming them. The coin he gave to the Museum of the Mint.—*Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*, Vol. XIV., No. 92, p. 16.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE mint collection of coins is, as may well be supposed, interesting as illustrative of the changes which the British coinage has undergone from the time of the Saxon kings to the present day. Among the coins is a shilling of Henry VII., which marks an important change in the design of the British coinage, namely, the substitution of the royal shield of arms for the cross with "pellets" at the angles which had up to that time formed the reverse of the coins. It illustrates the great advance in art during that reign. Among other coins in the collection, of much numismatic interest, is the 'Oxford Crown,' the work of Thomas Rawlins, chief engraver of the mint during the civil war. This is one of a series of coins and medals by the same artist, struck at Oxford before its surrender by the royalist forces in 1646. There is also the celebrated 'Petition Crown,' by Thomas Simon, who was chief engraver of the mint under the Commonwealth, and whose petition to be retained in that office at the Restoration occupies the rim of the coin.—*London Times*.

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

December 3. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted. Mr. Morse presented a medallion head of Franklin, cast from the metal of the bell of the old Franklin School house, Boston. The President exhibited three small antique copper coins, belonging to Mr. Hurter; two are of Beirut. Mr. Parmelee showed a half-dollar of 1797, and Mr. Creamer an exceedingly fine cent of 1806. Mr. Morse exhibited some coins from Siam and Burmah, and a fine piece of six livres of the French Republic, 1793. Mr. Root showed a set of the new Japanese money. Mr. Pratt and Dr. Green were appointed a Committee to nominate at the annual meeting a list of officers for the ensuing year. The Society adjourned shortly before 5 P. M.

January 7. The annual meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted; also, a letter from Mr. Isaac F. Wood of New York, accompanying donations of a pamphlet from himself and from Mr. John Bowne of Washington. The Treasurer made his annual report, from which it appears that the Society is in good financial condition. Mr. Pratt, for the Committee to nominate officers, reported the old board for re-election; the report was accepted, and the following persons were declared officers for 1875: *President*, Jeremiah Colburn; *Vice-President and Curator*, Henry Davenport; *Treasurer*, John Robinson; *Secretary*, Wm. S. Appleton. The thirteenth By-law was altered, so that the meetings of the Society shall be held on the first Friday of each month. The President exhibited the Pine Tree Copper belonging to Mr. Henry Sewall Adams, a member of the Society, of which a fac-simile is given.



It is struck over a half-penny of George I., part of the date of which is discernable, and is supposed to be 1723. The piece has been in various collections during the past twelve or fifteen years, and from the owners it is traced back to the discoverer, Charles Payson, Esq., of Portland, Me. Mr. Payson purchased it of an old gentleman, who said it had been in his possession some forty years.

Mr. P's theory about it is, that the die was rejected on account of the last *n* being left out of the word England; this accounts for not finding Shillings of the same die. Although the Pine Tree Shillings were struck some

forty years after their first issue in 1652, all bore that date. That this die should have been in existence at the period of the issue of the half-pennies of George I., is not strange, as a die of a similar character, used here one hundred and twenty years ago, was shown at the November meeting. Mr. Pratt showed an impression in bronze of the medal, CONQUEST OF CANADA COMPLETED. Mr. Holland exhibited five Fenian coins and medals, generally of 1866. The Secretary showed an impression in gold, of the medal of Washington by Manley; it is taken from the die before any change was made, and is, so far as known, unique. The Society adjourned just before 5 P. M.

February 5. A monthly meeting was held this day. The Secretary read the report of the last meeting, which was accepted, and a letter from Mr. Isaac F. Wood of New York, accompanying a donation of two pamphlets. The Secretary read a paragraph from a newspaper, announcing the death on January 10th of Mr. Thomas Wilson of Manchester, N. H., a member of the Society. Mr. Dudley R. Child of Boston was elected a resident member. The President exhibited a crown and half-crown of Oliver Cromwell. Mr. Robinson showed several coins, among which were an antique gold of Carthage, and very perfect cents of 1826 and 1828, lately found in circulation at Salem. Mr. Holland exhibited three pieces, two of which are especially curious, viz.: the silver medal of Charles III. of Spain, with rev. of a rose, and JUAN ESTEVAN DE PENA FLORIDA 1760, and a bronze medal of 1817, DUCE MACGREGORIO LIBERTAS FLORIDARUM, rev. AMALIA VENI VIDI VICI; the third is the coin issued by James II. of England, apparently for convenience of circulation and exchange with the Spanish. Mr. Crosby showed a newly discovered copper, with the shield of New Jersey reverses, and head of Washington, ins. GEN. WASHINGTON, similar to two in the collection of the Secretary, Nos. XII. and XIII. of his printed list. The Secretary exhibited two medals of the Centennial Commission. The Society adjourned shortly before 5 P. M.

WM. S. APPLETON, *Secretary.*

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

January 29, 1875. The regular meeting was held this day, President Anthon in the chair. The Executive Committee recommended Mr. J. E. Poillon of New York for resident member, and Mr. Rodney A. Mercur of Towanda, Pa., for corresponding member, and they were unanimously accepted. The following additions and donations were reported by the Curator:—A Lincoln Medal in white metal from the Society; Agassiz Medal in bronze, and a Centennial Art Gallery Medal in white metal, from Mr. I. F. Wood; two specimens in silver and silver gilt of the Jubilee Memorial Medal, from Dr. Samuel A. Green, of Boston; the last two, as also the following pieces, were inadvertently omitted in former acknowledgments: fifty and ten cent Canadian pieces of 1871, from Mr. Henry Mott of Montreal; Medal of the Montreal Numismatic Society, in white metal, and a Masonic Medal in commemoration of Canadian Union, in white metal, from Mr. Alfred Sandham of Montreal. The Librarian reported a number of additions to the library, with the names of the donors, for which the thanks of the Society were voted. A letter was read from D. Ravenel of Charleston, S. C., announcing the prospective formation of a Numismatic Society in that city, and from other correspondents. The following exhibitions from private collections were made:—By Mr. Wood, a copy of the Confederate Seal, also, a Lafayette Medal in silver. By Mr. Groh, one hundred and forty silver "Copperheads," all different, also, a Quadruple specimen of the "Laurentialsglück" dollar; and by Prof. Anthon, a triple of the same, an uncirculated specimen of the earliest Canada piece of Louis XIV., known as the "Gloriam Regni;" thirty Papal Scudi, or silver dollars, from Urban the VIII. to the present time. By Mr. A. C. Zabriskie, a Lincoln Medal in soap, bust to right, reverse, J. C. Hull's Son, N. Y., size 44. By Capt. Defendorf, a large silver medal of Attila, reverse, City of Aquileia, before its destruction by him. By Mr. E. Cogan, a rare Col. Duncan Medal

in tin, presented by citizens of New York, Dec. 28, 1848; also, a bronze Medal on the conquest of Canada, 1770, obv. head George II., rev. female weeping under a pine tree, "Canada Subdued;" also, an uncirculated half-crown of Charles X., Pretender to the throne of France, 1591. By Mr. Betts, his set of fifty-six varieties New Jersey Colonials. By Mr. Parish, a fine bronze medal, Plymouth Colony, 1639, Boston, Mass., 1770, wreath with coat of arms, surmounted by a French eagle, rev. a Monument, with a figure at each side.

WM. POILLON, *Secretary*.

This last piece is the Sears' Family medal, prepared for the late Hon. David Sears, of Boston.—*Eds.*

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Editors of the American Journal of Numismatics :

IN the July Number of your Journal, "H. E. H." inquires about a medal of Zwingle. It is one struck in commemoration of the Swiss Reformation Jubilee, 1819. The reason that the date is 1819 instead of 1817, the time of the German festivals, is that on January 1, 1519, Zwingle declared himself in favor of the Word of God. A great crowd, eager to see this celebrated man, and to hear this new Gospel, which was a general topic of conversation, crowded the temple. "It is to Christ," said Zwingle, "that I desire to lead you; to Christ, the true source of salvation. His Divine Word is the only food that I wish to set before your hearts and souls." The beginning of the Swiss Reformation is dated from this action of Zwingle. I do not think that the medal is rare. If H. E. H. desires to dispose of one of his three, I should like to purchase it.

Decorah, Iowa, Dec. 16, 1874.

E. W. HOLWAY.

"TWO RIGHT HANDS JOINED."—On a cut of one of Marius's coins, (in an old German book whose title page is wanting,) I find this inscription on the obverse. IMP C MARIUS P F AVG surrounding a crowned head of the Emperor. On the reverse is this inscription: CONCORDIA MILITVM surrounding the two right hands joined. He was originally an armorer or blacksmith in Gaul. He reigned only three days and was slain by a soldier to whom he had refused some favor, and who, in stabbing him, exclaimed, "Take it—it was thou thyself that forged it." ["Dit is 't Sureert dat ghy selve ghemæckt hebt."] Died in year of Rome 1019, A. D. 267.—R. M.

MR. SYLVESTER KEITH of Hadley, Mass., recently found about fifty Spanish milled dollars, dated 1655, buried on his farm, and sold them for one dollar apiece to the great delight of the local antiquarians, who thought that they were making a bargain. The coins prove to be counterfeit.

MR. JAMES KELLY, Inspector of Schools in the City of New York, recently deceased, has left one thousand dollars, with the interest on which is to be procured one silver and one bronze medal, to be presented to the pupils of the female department of the Sixth and Ninth Ward Schools, who shall evince the best deportment and greatest amiability of disposition during the year. Another medal is also to be given to the pupil of the Normal College, who shall have made the most progress in studies fitting her for a teacher during the year.

THE Bank Presidents in Philadelphia have formed an association for collecting, classifying and exhibiting at the Centennial Exposition, specimens of coins and paper money from the settlement of the country to the present time, with statistics of banking and finance. The Secretary of the Treasury, Comptroller of Currency, and the Director of the Mint will assist, and banks and bankers throughout the country will be invited to contribute their aid.

A COLLECTION of forty enlarged photographs of Roman coins, arranged by John Edward Lee, F. S. A., is imported by Messrs. Scribner, Welford & Armstrong of New York. Only one hundred copies of this work are published in England. The pictures used are selected from a series of about one hundred and fifty profiles of Roman Emperors, Empresses, and Cæsars, drawn in lithograph from medallions and coins.

THE coinage of silver under the Act which promises resumption of specie payments in 1879, has already actively commenced. In January the Philadelphia mint turned out 722,300 half dollars, 300 quarters and 550,300 dimes—in all, 1,272,900 coins, not to mention 690,000 five-cent pieces, and 1,180,000 cents. No date has yet been fixed for the redemption of fractional currency.

OBITUARY.

HON. THOMAS H. WYNNE, of Richmond, Va, died in that city, on the twenty-fourth of February last, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. Mr. Wynne has held many positions of honor and trust in political and business relations in that city and State. With us he is most kindly remembered for the enthusiastic interest he took in historical matters, particularly in the colonial history of Virginia. He was the Secretary of the Virginia Historical Society, of which he was the most active member, as well as being connected with other literary institutions. He had published, (for private circulation among his friends and various historical societies in which he took great interest,) several volumes of historical works. He has been a valued correspondent of the *Journal*, and his numismatic friends have been the recipients from him of many curiosities, such as fac-similes of medals, seals, coins, Indian badges, old manuscripts, &c., &c. His loss will be greatly felt among historical students in his native State. Mr. Wynne was elected a corresponding member of the *Boston Numismatic Society* in July, 1871.

MR. PHILIP S. SPRAGUE, a resident member of the *Boston Numismatic Society*, died at Montpelier, Vt., his native place, on the sixth day of August last, in the forty-fifth year of his age. We have received from an intimate friend of his the following notice of our late member:—"About 1862 he commenced the study of Entomology with me at the State Cabinet of Natural History, displaying a marked taste for the Lepidoptera, and during the intervals of his business made considerable progress in biological investigations, as well as in the technology of the science. Circumstances soon induced him to direct his attention chiefly to the Coleoptera, and here his assiduity in making collections, his accuracy in the determination of species, and his studies in the microscopic anatomy of this order, gave his opinions weight among naturalists. His keen appreciation of the labors of his predecessors, and his love of neatness and method evinced themselves in all that he did. At the time of his death he had been for some months a valuable assistant and member of the Boston Society of Natural History, where many of his works remain to speak for themselves. Among his associates there, he was distinguished for his geniality of manner and never failing readiness to assist younger students. At the time of his death his fame and foreign correspondence were somewhat extended, and he was actively engaged in the preparation of materials for an illustrative cabinet of the Natural History of his native State. He had published from time to time in the *Canadian Entomologist* and the *Proceedings of the Natural History Society* carefully elaborated results of his work, and contributed to various other periodicals devoted to his favorite branch of investigation. His fine private cabinet of insects, principally of the Coleopterous Order, in accordance with his expressed determination, forms a part of the Museum of the Society to which he was attached, and is in itself no mean monument to his memory."

F. G. S.

Mr. Sprague was elected a member of this Society, May 5, 1860.
